

Summer 2021

Dear Sixth Graders,

The teachers at Timberlane recognize that summer may be a busy and exciting time for you, and we wish you an enjoyable and fun break. We know you are both excited and nervous about beginning your years at Timberlane. We look forward to getting to know you in September.

Part of a great summer can be the extra time that you have to read. The more you read, the more you learn, the better you write, the more knowledge you have to share, and the better student you can be. We encourage you to read as much as you can this summer – newspapers, magazines, cereal boxes, websites, and BOOKS. Read by the pool, at the beach, on the couch, as you travel, or whenever you need an escape.

As you prepare for your sixth grade year, **you are asked to read one of the books from the list below and complete an activity from the choice board on page 4 of this Google Doc.** The novel you choose will be used in discussions and written assignments during the first weeks of school, so if you own a copy of the novel be sure to have it with you. We will be asking you to write a little bit about your book during the first week of school. We, your future language arts teachers at Timberlane, read a lot of books as we prepared the list, and we picked a variety that includes one for every type of reader. We hope you will find one that you will enjoy and share with friends and family. **Be sure to bring your completed assignment with you on Friday, September 10th, as it will count as a homework grade in language arts class.**

Have a great summer and HAPPY READING!



Sincerely,

Your Future Sixth Grade Language Arts/Reading Teacher

*Summer Reading Selections: Pick one*

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech

Save Me a Seat by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan

Masterminds by Gordon Korman

Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment by James Patterson

## **Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Selections**

*Pick one:*

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech

Save Me a Seat by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan

Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment by James Patterson

Masterminds by Gordon Korman

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### **Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech**

The struggle of thirteen year old Salamanca (Sal) to understand and deal with her mother's disappearance unfolds while on a cross-country trip with her eccentric grandparents. Sal tells them the story of her friend Phoebe whose mother has left home, which parallels the feelings Sal has about the loss of her mother. Phoebe's story is comical, which entertains her grandparents in their travels. Sal finally understands where her mother has been and why the mysterious Mrs. Cadaver became so important to her father as the trip with her grandparents ends. Sal finds closure when she returns home to her father.

*This story, which is told with humor and suspense, is an engaging story of self discovery, love, and loss. Alternating narrators allow the reader to make connections between the girls' experiences and his or her own.*

### **Save Me a Seat by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan**

Joe and Ravi might be from very different places, but they're both stuck in the same place: SCHOOL. Joe's lived in the same town all his life, and was doing just fine until his best friends moved away and left him on his own. Ravi's family just moved to America from India, and he's finding it pretty hard to figure out where he fits in. Joe and Ravi don't think they have anything in common -- but soon enough they have a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and a common mission: to take control of their lives over the course of a single crazy week.

*This tale of two students from different cultures explores the journey that they take while trying to find their place in the world. Told from both characters' perspective, this exploration of friendship and discovery is equally painful and heartwarming. This is a story to which many can relate. Added bonus- The authors included recipes that feature prominently in the text.*

**Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment by James Patterson**

Fourteen-year-old Maximum Ride, better known as Max, knows what it's like to soar above the world. She and all the members of the "Flock"-- Fang and Iggy, both 13, Nudge, 11, Gazzy, 8, and Angel, 6--were all created as experiments in a lab called the School. They are just like ordinary kids--only they have wings and can fly. Jeb, a sympathetic scientist, helped them escape and, since then, they've been living on their own. It may seem like a dream come true to some, but their lives can morph into a living nightmare at any time--like when Angel, the youngest member of the "Flock," is kidnapped and taken back to the "School" to live like a lab rat again. Her friends brave a journey to blazing hot Death Valley, CA, to save Angel, but soon enough, they find themselves in yet another nightmare--this one involves fighting off the half-human, half-wolf "Erasers" in New York City. Whether in the treetops of Central Park or in the depths of the Manhattan subway system, Max and her adopted family take the ride of their lives. Along the way Max discovers from her old friend Jeb--now her greatest enemy--that her purpose is to save the world--but can she?

*A page-turning book filled with adventure and a little bit of science fiction. The first in a series, this book will surely not be the last you read this summer!*

**Masterminds by Gordon Korman**

Eli Frieden lives in the most perfect town in the world: Serenity, New Mexico. Honesty and integrity are valued above all else. The thirty kids who live there never lie—they know it's a short leap from that to the awful problems of other, less fortunate places.


Eli has never left Serenity . . . why would he ever want to? Then one day, he bikes to the edge of the city limits and something so crazy and unexpected happens, it changes everything. Eli convinces his friends to help him investigate further, and soon it becomes clear that nothing is as it seems in Serenity. The clues mount to reveal a shocking discovery, connecting their ideal crime-free community to some of the greatest criminal masterminds ever known. The kids realize they can trust no one—least of all their own parents.

*This is a unique and action-packed story that is filled with twists and turns. With characters that you can't help but root for, this first book in a series will take readers on a wild ride with terrific humor and a surprising mystery.*

# 6th Grade Summer Reading Choice Board

**Directions:** In the middle box record the title of the book you are reading and the author's name. Then, choose one of the activities to complete from the squares below. For video submissions for either the interview or book trailer, use this [link](#) to access Flipgrid. For all other activities, write your response on either paper or a printed document.

Be sure to bring your completed assignment with you on Friday, September 10th.

<p>Write a script for an interview with the protagonist or antagonist about their experiences from the story. Then, create a <b>fictional interview video using Flipgrid</b> with the protagonist or antagonist where you play the character and dress the part.</p>	<p>Create four <b>character trading cards</b>. On the front of the card, include the character's name and an image of the character. On the flip side of the card, include important biographical information and at least three characteristics describing the character's personality.</p>	<p><b>Write a series of diary entries</b> from the point of view of one of the story's main characters that they would have written before, during, and after the book's events. Remember that the character's thoughts and feelings are very important in a diary.</p>
<p>What are the 10 most important events from your book? Create an <b>illustrated timeline</b> of events from your book. Think about important conflicts that the protagonist faced throughout the story. Be sure to break this down into the beginning, middle, and end of the story.</p>	<p><b>Write the title of your book and the author's name here.</b></p> <p><b>Title of book:</b></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <p><b>Author:</b></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> 	<p>If this novel had a <b>soundtrack</b>, what would it be? Create a playlist (song title and artist) with at least 5 songs that would make a great soundtrack for the book. Explain in a few sentences how each of your choices connects to the book.</p>
<p>Create a <b>comic strip</b> retelling the story in your own words. Be sure to include all of the important characters, exciting events, conflicts, and resolution.</p>	<p>Create a video <b>book trailer using Flipgrid</b>. Remember to include music to set the tone, and tell a brief story about the central conflict and characters without revealing too much! Tease the audience!</p>	<p>Create a new <b>book jacket</b> for the novel. Use the artistic medium of your choice (draw, paint, etc.) to design the front cover. Be sure to include an eye-catching image along with the title of the book and author's name. On the back, include a blurb about the author and a few sentences teasing the book.</p>